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PURPOSE OF FLIGHT:

TECHNICAL OFFICER'S REPORT:

) Ferrying aircraft from Montreal to Scoudouc

) Can be assumed that port generator voltage regulator was at fault, allowing the generator to transmit its entire output into the system.

NATURE OF ACCIDENT:

) After flying one hour, smell of burning was noticed and found that port generator was overcharging. Pilot was warned and decided to land. Investigated trouble on landing and leak in port selector, gasoline spilling in W/O's cabin. In attempting to inspect auxiliary batteries and removing the battery cover, explosion occurred and subsequent fire completely destroyed the A/C.

COURT OF INQUIRY OR INVESTIGATING OFFICER'S REPORT:

FINDINGS:

SUMMARY No. 98

) This accident was due to a highly volatile mixture becoming ignited by a spark from the battery.

CLASSIFICATION:

) 42. Fire after landing

RECOMMENDATION - Spaces between the deck and superstructure forward of FE's compartment be sealed to prevent gasoline spillage into the W/O's cabin.

) That drains already fitted be kept clear on D.I.'s and suitably labelled.

) That W/O's on A/C such as the Canso have a working knowledge of the electrical controls.

CONCLUSIONS OF A.I.B. - Agree

) Arrangement of gasoline system in this type of A/C is open to criticism. Cleaning of filters causes spillage of fuel into the W/T comp. and leaks in the selector cocks add to the trouble. This is a potential fire hazard.

) Letter issued to Vickers to ensure that fitting of deck to No. 2 Bulkhead is watertight.

SECONDARY OR CONTRIBUTORY FACTORS:

) 33. Technical Defect